

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEAC)**

**October 1, 2008  
Hampton Inn, Okemos, Michigan  
10:00 am — 3:00 pm**

**MINUTES**

Delegates Present: Cindy Bush, Thomas Caldwell, Julie Daggett-Lawrence, Michel Lynn DeJulian, Judith Dorsch-Backes, Jonelle Gillette, Doris Higgs, Jackie D. Igafo-Te'o, Teri Johnson, Christopher Korbel, Kathleen Kosobud, Sheri Kraft, Tom Langdon, Diane Lanham Kullis, David D. Mallott, Michelle Miller, David Overly, Stoney Polman, Jayanne Roggenbaum, Susan Schneider, Richard Spring, Chuck Stockwell, Lori Swan, Jan Van Gasse, Melissa Wade

Ex-Officio Present: Beverly Baroni-Yeglic, Margie Hadsell, Mark Larson, Lee Martin, Jacquelyn Thompson, LaDean Watts-George

MDE Staff Present: Sharon Dietrich, Karen Filliez, Meredith Hines, Susan Liebetreu, Teresita Long, Ann Omans, Harvalee Saunto, Sally Vaughn, Pat West, Joanne Winkelman

Guests Present: Beth Alberti, Julie DeRose, Michelle Driscoll (Alt.), Darlene Heard-Thomas, Chandra Jones, Linda Keway (Alt.), Maggie Kolk, Vera McClain, Debs Roush, Holly Sasso, Cynthia Wright

SEAC Consultant: Sandi Laham

I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken.

III. Introduction of Guests

Guests were introduced.

IV. Approval of Proposed October Agenda

The October agenda was amended to add Item XVI, Member Announcements. The agenda was renumbered to end with Item XIX, Adjournment. Motion by Richard Spring, seconded by David Overly. Motion carried.

V. Approval of June 4, 2008 Minutes

The June 4, 2008 minutes were approved. Motion by Judith Dorsh-Backes, seconded by David Overly. Motion carried.

VI. Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

## VII. Chairperson's Report

1. Evaluation results from the September 14-15, 2008 SEAC New Member Orientation and Planning Retreat were very good.
2. WORD WALL- Acronyms will continue to be added to the wall throughout the year.
3. LINKS PROGRAM –Mrs. Kathleen Straus's letter thanking SEAC for work on the LINKS issue was shared.
4. Each SEAC member is responsible for a self evaluation. (See handout.)
5. Group picture from retreat was displayed.
6. SEAC members may receive CEUs for meeting attendance.

## VIII. State Department Reports – Dr. Jacquelyn J. Thompson, Director, Office of Special Education/Early Intervention Services (OSE/EIS)

1. Thanks to the SEAC Executive Committee, MDE staff and Sandi for a successful retreat and new member orientation.
2. New administrative rules promulgation is in process and a period of public comment will begin in October. SEAC will have a learning opportunity today on these rules. Next month SEAC will develop public comment.
3. Michigan Mathematics Program Improvement (MMPI) developed under the State Improvement Grant (SIG) and will be continued under other IDEA funds. The initiative will be presented to the board this month.
4. CIMS Cycle II Update: (See PowerPoint handout.)
  - Information on the Continuous Improvement Monitoring System (CIMS) can be found at <http://www.cenmi.org/cims/>
  - CIMS Cycle II (now called CIMS-2) is focused on analysis of data rather than gathering the data.
  - Review and Analysis Process (RAP) teams will zero in on areas of concern.
5. MI3/CEN Interagency Calendar Community: Beverly Baroni-Yeglic
  - Interagency calendar (see handouts)
  - Invitation to SEAC member organizations to list organizational offerings on the interagency calendar.
  - Goal: utilize resources efficiently

## IX. Reports from Ex-Officio Members

Ex-Officio members were invited to report on matters which impact special education in their respective areas, to explain function of their organization and how the organization may help the SEAC.

1. Margie Hadsell, Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS), Cynthia Wright, Transition Consultant
  - Role and function of MRS
    - Mission of MRS is to partner with individuals or persons with disabilities and employers to achieve quality employment outcomes and independence.
    - Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and amendments govern MRS.
    - Cash-Match Agreements with ISDs provide extra services to students with disabilities.
    - Rehabilitation Counselors receive referrals from the districts. The goal is employment and maintaining a job.
    - 2008 year end data shows 32.8% of total cases are youth. 48,000 youth cases were served across the State of Michigan.
  - SEAC and MRS
    - Keep current with issues and challenges facing SEAC and MRS.
    - Common ground.
    - MRS is a resource to SEAC and part of the SEAC team.
2. Dr. Mark Larson, Institutions of Higher Education (IHE)
  - Role and function
    - IHE meets monthly (teacher preparation programs)
    - Direct link through list-serv to IHE.
    - To remove “silos” in public education between general and special education.
  - SEAC and IHE
    - A working group for OSE/EIS; reviews rules around disability categories and standards for teachers.
    - Universities as partners.

### 3. LaDean Watts-George, Michigan Department of Corrections (DOC)

- Role and function
  - Serving 350 prisoners who are eligible for special education services up to age 22 in 47 state prisons.
  - Address barriers to learning.
- SEAC and Michigan Department of Corrections
  - Follow individual education plans for all prison students.
  - Responsible to MDE for monitoring, etc.
  - Work cooperatively with SEAC.

### 4. Dr. Lee Martin, Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS)

- Role and Function
  - Continuing education for staff.
  - Operates 5 public centers (State operated) serving adjudicated youth who have court involvement.
  - Obligated to operate under state and federal regulations.
- SEAC and Michigan Department of Human Services
  - Recidivism; no follow-up responsibility for those that leave the prison system.
  - Work cooperatively with the SEAC.

## X. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

### 1. Bylaw Review Committee

- The SEAC Bylaws and Procedures, Section VII. Amendment of Bylaws (page 16) states that the Executive Committee will ensure that an annual review of the SEAC Bylaws be conducted.
- Vice-Chair of SEAC to chair the committee: Tom Langdon.
- Four to six SEAC members to serve on this committee.
  - Tom Caldwell plus two to four more volunteers.
- Target date for receipt of committee report and recommendations is February 2009.

## XI. Subcommittee Reports –

1. Personal Curriculum Subcommittee Report and Recommendations – (Michael Yocum, Jan Van Gasse, Richard Spring, Chuck Stockwell, Shari Krishnan)
  - Add draft and date to the report.
  - After reviewing report, the SEAC will vote on the recommendations at the November 5 meeting.
  - Five recommendations for the State Board of Education (SBE) to consider:
    1. Review policies which may restrict time available to students

- with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) to meet the high school graduation requirements.
- 2. School districts to assess the extent their students with disabilities have had opportunities to learn the materials included in the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC).
- 3. Review standard for MMC deviation for students with IEPs who graduate after 2016.
- 4. Calling on the SBE to initiate a program which helps educators and parents understand the personal curriculum
- 5. Calling on the SBE to initiate efforts to assist local school districts in moving toward programs that accelerate learning for students who are behind in meeting achievement standards.

## XII. Information Items<sup>1</sup>

1. Key Issues of State Department of Education (Department) and the SEAC involvement: Dr. Sally Vaughn
  - Dr. Vaughn thanked SEAC for their critical work. Identifying the unmet needs of students is very important to the Department.
  - SEAC's help is important in eliminating the silos of general education, special education and career and technical education.
  - Thank you to the SEAC for the input and advice given last year on Extended School Year (ESY) and teacher standards.
  - This year, the SEAC comment on the rules and regulations should continue to address issues that may be missed by the Department.
2. Administrative Rule Package with Complaint Rules and Procedures – Joanne Winkelman and Harvalee Saunto
  - See handouts on Administrative Rule Package with Complaint Rules and Procedures.
  - There will be statewide training on the complaint rules and procedures.
  - The OSE/EIS will publish a side by side document of the Federal and State rules.
  - SEAC will develop public comment at the November 5 SEAC meeting

XIII. Action Items – there were no action items this month.

## XIV. Emerging Issues

- There were no emerging issues this month.

## XV. SEAC Learning: SEAC Dialogue/Learning: SEAC Issue Identification/Review of Annual Report

In order to help identify key issues for 2008-2009, the SEAC work from the past 2 years was reviewed and additional work identified.

1. **2006-07 SEAC HS Reform Paper** (found in section 6 – SEAC Reports in the SEAC Meetings Notebook): *(Cindy Bush, Fred Cromie, Julie Daggett-Lawrence, Doris Higgs, Jackie Igafo-Te'o, Chris Korbel, Diane Lanham*

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<sup>1</sup> Items requiring action by the SEAC are presented first as Information Items and then again as Action Items the following month.

*Kullis, Jayanne Roggenbaum, Lori Swan, Melissa Wade, Lee Martin, Jane Scarlett, LaDean Watts-George*) Identification of key points:

- Individual time allowance to finish high school; 5<sup>th</sup> year.
- Impact of adequate yearly progress (AYP) on the curriculum.
- Lack of curriculum access to do the MMC exam.
- Teacher training and continuing education for teachers. SEAC to continue to review, study, and monitor high school reform.

2. **2006-07 SEAC Report on Proactive & Early Intervention for All**

(found in section 6 – SEAC Reports in the SEAC Meetings Notebook):

*Joan Bade, Debra Brinson, Tom Caldwell, Judith Dorsch-Backes, Jonelle Gillette, Teri Johnson, David Malott, Michelle Miller, David Overly, Lydia Rich, Chuck Stockwell, Sheri Falvay, Margie Hadsell, Mark Larson.*

Identification of key points:

- The SEAC encourages universities and their research efforts to collaborate in math, reading, writing instruction and positive behavior supports.
- The SEAC could help faculty get aligned to receive more grant dollars in Michigan.
- Help the SBE identify 3-5 year olds at risk for school failure.
- Birth-5 years school readiness
  - How is Part C money being spent and used?
  - Continue to research interventions

3. **Extended School Year: ESY** (found in section 6 – SEAC Reports in the SEAC Meetings Notebook): *Michael Beach, Michel Lynn DeJulian, SheriKraft, Tom Langdon, Sue Schneider, Richard Spring, Stoney Polman, Beverly Baroni-Yeglic.* Identification of key points:

- Clarification of Standards needed.
- Substantial regression, consistency and degree of loss need to be defined better.
- ESY would be more subjective with the change of rules
- Separate guidance document be from regulations.

4. SEAC group recommendations

- Follow-up on what SEAC has recommended (guidance document for ESY) on the listserv.
- Survey of MiBLSi and RTI across the state: what progress are we making in blending RTI with general education?
- Encourage research and make connection with universities.
- More information on services and money currently being spent on children birth to five.
- Solicit the legislature to support education funding.
- Individual time allowance for high school completion.

- Impact of AYP on the curriculum.
- Curriculum access for those who take the MMC exam.
- Pre-service and continuing education.
- SEAC continue to review, study and monitor high school reform.
- AYP Waiver update: Option to include 5<sup>th</sup> year cohort.

#### XVI. Member Announcements

- MEA Instructional and Professional Development Conference, Dec. 4-6 at the Dearborn Hyatt [www.mea.org/conferences](http://www.mea.org/conferences)
- ASHA – speech pathologists conference in Chicago, November 18-23
- MASSW Annual Conference, October 16-18, Grand Rapids

#### XVIII. Future Agenda Considerations

- Action Item: SEAC public comment regarding the proposed Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education including complaint rules and procedures– November 2008
- Action Item: Report from the SEAC Committee on Personal Curriculum: To act on the recommendations found in the report from the committee and forward the report to the Michigan Department of Education and State Board of Education – November 2008
- SEAC Learning: State Performance Plan Indicator #5, Educational Settings: To present information with regard to SPP #5 and to provide feedback on target setting with regard to this indicator – November 2008, SEAC Learning; December 2008, Recommendations for Future Target Consideration.
- SEAC Learning: Sheri Falvey, Ex-Officio member - presentation on the Michigan Department of Community Health – November 2008
- SEAC Learning: Michigan Youth Leadership – Bill Milzarski – November 2008
- E-meeting sessions to be held at Clinton County Regional Educational Service Agency, February 4, 2009 and April 1, 2009.

#### XVIII. Process Check – Self Evaluation Sheet

#### XIX. Adjournment at 2:48 p.m.

